

SOMB Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Sex Offender Management Board was called to order on March 17, 2011. Illinois State Police, District 6 Headquarters, Pontiac, Illinois. Chairperson Cara Smith was unable to attend the meeting. Board member Tracie Newton called the meeting to order.

PRESENT:

Member(s):

Michael Bednarz, Amy Campanelli, Carol Corgan, Sheryl Essenburg, Steve Goytia, Jerry Isikoff, Robin McGinnis, Verlin Meinz, Tracie Newton, Mickie Owens, Harry Reed, Patti Sudendorf, Dustin Sutton, Abdi Tinwalla, Dick Winkler

Non-Member(s):

Alesia Crockett (Attorney General's Office), Laurie Jo Reynolds (Soros Justice Fellow), Tizor Landeros (Joliet Police Department), Tonia Maloney (Illinois Voices), Carrie Gage (Illinois Voices), Michael O'Connell (Illinois Voices), Evan Gregg (Kankakee County Probation)

ABSENT:

Member(s):

Excused: Cara Smith, Alyssa Schafer, Shauna Boliker

Unexcused: Pat Delfino, B. Kent Jones, Jack Cutrone

A. Welcome/Roll Call

B. Review of Meeting Minutes: January 20, 2011

A motion was made by Dr. Michael Bednarz and seconded by Dr. Abdi Tinwalla to approve the minutes for the January 20, 2011 meeting. All Board members present approved the motion.

C. Discussion: Illinois Voices Survey of SOMB Providers

Several Board members received calls related to a survey that Illinois Voices sent to all SOMB Approved Providers. A copy of the email sent by Tonia Maloney was forwarded to the Board on January 26, 2011. The Board was not aware of the survey and had invited Tonia Maloney to discuss the intention of the survey as well as the results.

Tonia stated the intention of the survey was to see (1) if treatment services agreed with current laws, (2) provide information to the legislature and (3) look for supporters. Sheryl Essenburg stated that upon reviewing the Illinois Voices website (ilvoices.com) she had questions regarding the accuracy of the information on the website. Some examples Sheryl provided were the information on the "Romeo and Juliet" fact sheet. Also the list of things that you can do that will label you as a sex offender per the "What you don't know about Sex Offenders, but should" fact sheet.

Tonia defended the accuracy of the information on the website and was open to any suggestions the Board could provide. Carol Corgan stated that ICASA has information available through their agency. Amy Campanelli recommended they hire an attorney to

review the on the website. Robin McGinnis stated that Illinois ATSA would be a good resource as well. Tonia suggested the Board review the information on the SOMB website because some of the sex offender statistics need to be updated. Alesia Crockett stated she will review the information and have it updated.

The survey was emailed to 138 providers and 14 completed the survey. A copy of the results from the Questionnaire for Treatment Providers will be sent to the Board via email.

D. Discussion: Shirt Off My Back

Alesia Crockett forwarded a copy of an email sent to her on January 31, 2011 by an agency called “Shirt Off My Back” or “SOMB”. It is a new clothing company with a charitable mission that for every item of clothing sold they will donate a school uniform to a child in Africa.

James Williams, the CEO, would like the Board to discontinue using the acronym SOMB. The company applied for and was awarded the trademark for “SOMB”. Alesia contacted Assistant Attorney General (AAG) Gary Griffin, Bureau Chief of General Law to return his call. On February 18, 2011, AAG Griffin spoke with him regarding the trademark issue. Mr. Williams was receptive to the information AAG Griffin provided and did not plan to take any action at this time.

E. Open Meetings Act Training

Alesia Crockett stated that as the Freedom of Information Officer for the SOMB, she is required to complete the on-line Open Meeting Act (OMA) training. Upon completing the training, she thought the Board members could benefit from the training as well.

Alesia emailed the Board information regarding the training with instructions on how to access it through the website at <http://foia.ilattorneygeneral.net/default.aspx>

Upon completion of the OMA training members will receive a certificate. The certificate should be faxed to her at 312-814-5727 which will be placed in member’s files. Alesia plans to invite a representative from the Public Access Counselor’s office to the next meeting to answer any questions or concerns the Board may have regarding OMA.

F. Task Force – Committees Reports

Standards and Guidelines & Research

Dr. Michael Bednarz and Dr. Abdi Tinwalla reported the Committee is reviewing the Board’s current Standards and Guidelines. Robin McGinnis stated ATSA is reviewing their current Standards. She volunteered to get the contact person’s name and phone number if the Committee was interested.

Quality Assurance of Providers & Ethics and Conflict of Interest

Harry Reed stated the Committee scheduled a conference call on March 9, 2011 to discuss their goals. One of the goals is to send a Request for Proposal (RFP) to select a reliable Credentialing Service to verify the information of the applicant seeking to

become an SOMB Approved Provider. Also find out if the Board has the authority to collect funds from applicants to pay for the credentialing process. Alesia agreed to research the RFP process and find out if the Board has the Authority to collect funds.

The Committee would like to establish a formal compliant for process to handle provider issues. In addition, would like to establish on-going continuing educational trainings for the Board and providers.

A motion was made by Jerry Isikoff and seconded by Verlin Mainz to approve the minutes for the March 9, 2011 Quality Assurance of Provider & Ethics and Conflict of Interest Committee meeting. All Board members present approved the motion.

Funding

Verlin Mainz stated the Committee is in need of members. On March 14, 2011, via the telephone, Verlin and Dr. Michael Bednarz discussed (1) determining the interests of the Board, (2) seeking assistance from the Legislature regarding funding for the Board to complete its tasks and (3) seeking grant funding through ATSA or CSOM for improving the credentialing process.

Alesia reported as of the end of February the Fund balance was \$64,989.20. Program account (reimbursements to locals) = \$47,018.94; and Operations account (travel, training, postage, etc.) = \$17,970.26.

A motion was made by Tracie Newton and seconded by Dr. Abdi Tinwalla to approve the minutes for the March 14, 2011 Funding Committee meeting. All Board members present approved the motion.

Appointment

Jerry Isikoff reported the Committee met on February 24, 2011, via telephone, to discuss current appointments as well as vacancies. In addition, the Committee plans to monitor member's attendance. The Board currently has three Governor appointed vacancies: two judiciary and one law enforcement.

A motion was made by Jerry Isikoff and seconded by Dr. Abdi Tinwalla to approve the minutes for the February 24, 2011 Appointment Committee meeting. All Board members present approved the motion.

Legislative

Amy Campanelli reported the Committee met on March 11, 2011 to discuss what the duties and/or tasks of the Committee should be. Those include: being aware of pending legislation related to sex offenders, discuss the legislation and if feasible make recommendations regarding legislation to the Board.

One of the first tasks of the Committee will be to send a letter to all members of the General Assembly informing them of the Board and how it came into existence. A list containing the names and contact information of the current Board members will be included in hopes that the legislators will consult with the Board and/or its individual members regarding pending sex offender legislation.

A motion was made by Robin McGinnis and seconded by Jerry Isikoff to approve the minutes for the March 11, 2011 Legislative Committee meeting. All Board members present approved the motion.

G. Reimbursement Request: Champaign County

Alesia Crockett reported that Champaign County was seeking reimbursement for services provided outside the current fiscal year totaling \$2,500. On January 19, 2011, she received five reimbursement requests from Champaign County. Upon reviewing the requests, the service dates were outside the current fiscal year of July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011.

Request Date	Date of Service
January 5, 2011	February 19, 2010
January 6, 2011	May 26, 2010
January 7, 2011	April 16, 2010
January 7, 2011	May 5, 2010
January 11, 2011	March 5, 2010

On January 21, 2011, Alesia sent a letter to Champaign County outlining each request and the reason for the denials. On January 27, 2011, Jacque Chase called to discuss the letter stating that neither the reimbursement guidelines, reimbursement form or the website specify when to submit requests (i.e., current fiscal year, service dates, etc). She insisted on being reimbursed. Alesia explained the process and informed her that denials were never an issue in the past as a result this would need to be discussed with the Board at the next meeting, which was scheduled for March 17, 2011. Ms. Chase agreed to patiently await a response.

Background Info/Potential Concerns

As of March 8, 2011, 33 reimbursement requests have been denied because the services were outside that current fiscal year. (This total includes the five for Champaign County).

If the Board decides to reimburse Champaign County, it would possibly have to reimburse the counties that were previously denied reimbursements. The cost per fiscal year is:

Fiscal Year	Denials	Amount	Total
2007	2	300	600
2008	7	300	2,100
2009	7	300	2,100
2010	6	300	1,800
	5	500	2,500
2011	6	500	3,000
	33		\$12,100

Board's Response

Alesia asked the Board was it their intent when establishing the reimbursement process and guidelines to reimburse outside the current fiscal year. All the Board members present agreed that reimbursements were for services provided within the current fiscal year. Alesia stated she would inform Ms. Chase as well as add this information to the form, guidelines and website.

H. SOMB Approved Providers

Provider Complaint – Sheryl Essenburg

Sheryl Essenburg decided to discuss her complaint with the Quality Assurance of Providers Committee.

Provider with a Judgment

Alyssa Schafer was not at the meeting to discuss this issue. However, it was suggested that she discuss this with the Quality Assurance of Providers Committee.

I. New Business

J. Next Meeting: May 19, 2011, Video Conferencing, Illinois Department of Corrections, Springfield and Chicago

K. Adjournment